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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas P. Hager and Richard N. Lehman  
Serial No.: 10/003,529  
Filing Date: October 31, 2001  
For: COMPACT HYBRID FIBER REINFORCED RODS FOR  
OPTICAL CABLE REINFORCEMENTS AND  
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME

Examiner: Jill M. Gray  
Art Unit: 1774

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed September 7, 2005, Applicants submit this response to the issues raised therein.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicants respectfully submit that this response to final Office Action is being filed herewith as the submission required for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.